



Trail Center News

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Trail Center Volunteers Make Progress on New Section of Pacific Crest Trail



Volunteers Since
1983
August 2015

Next Event



Saturdays Sept 12 & October 10
Portola Redwoods State Park

[Volunteer Now](#)
[Project Details](#)

This is a continuation of a multi-day project. We will continue to brush, clear, and widen the trail. Drainage and tread will be repaired.

In addition, we will build a few retaining walls!

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Already a Volunteer?
Become a
Trail Center Member!

The Trail Center is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization, founded in 1983 and the volunteers who come out every month to build, re-route and maintain trails are the Trail Center's most valuable

On the weekend of July 23-25th, 2015, twelve experienced Trail Center volunteers joined six ACE (American Conservation Experience) crew members and two PCTA volunteers to engage in work on the Sierra Buttes Trail Realignment Project. This is a six-mile, multi-year project designed to move the Pacific Crest Trail from its current location on forest roads and private property where hikers have to dodge vehicular traffic, ATV's, OHV's and mountain bikes to a new, scenic path east of the existing alignment. The opening of this segment is expected for the 2017 season. Funding is provided by the Pacific Crest Trail Association, the U.S. Forest Service and the National Forest Foundation.

Trail Center volunteers arrived at the campsite on Thursday evening July 22nd and stayed at the (now abandoned) Forest Service Wild Plum Guard Station or the nearby Wild Plum Campground. These sites are located on the eastern edge of Sierra City and accessible via Highway 49.

Our workday started with a shuttle ride to the Packsaddle Campground near Packer Lake and a short hike to the active project site. Elevation was around 6400 ft., a little easier to deal with than some of our previous High Sierra work. Our volunteers could select from a buffet of work activities which included brushing and first cut of newly flagged trail, finishing of existing tread, completion of some switchback work, and digging in borrow pits and filling in a rock causeway (known there as the Yana Mines Detail). On Sunday morning one of our volunteers, Judd, was asked to help flag the final stretch to a service road crossing. By the end of the weekend the Trail Center finished about 300 feet of completely new trail, fixed several switchbacks, finalized some previously done treadwork and put in the last rocks on the causeway.

At the end of the day our volunteers could cool down and rinse off in any number of nearby lakes and streams where cool mountain water felt extremely refreshing.

The Trail Center would like to thank volunteers Kathy, George, Judd, Marilyn, Tom, Woody, Bill, Luke, Hank, Larry, Aaron and Eva for their participation and hard work. A special thanks go to supervisors Shaughn Dugan, Allie and Yana of ACE for their excellent leadership and welcoming and appreciative attitude, to Ellen Coyle, Jennifer Tripp and Justin Kooyman of the PCTA for assistance in planning and logistics, and to Joe Chavez of the USFS for project oversight and design.

Dollar-for-Dollar Matching of Membership Donations

An anonymous member of the Trail Center has generously offered to match any increase in contributions received from existing members and the membership contributions received from any new or lapsed Trail Center members who become or renew their membership by December 31, 2015 .

If you are someone who has been considering becoming a Trail Center member or renewing a lapsed membership with an annual donation of \$35 or more, this is an ideal opportunity to double your support of the Trail Center's trail building and maintenance program.

For current members, any increase in membership donations in 2015 (retroactive to January 1) over what was received during 2014 will be matched.

New memberships and renewals can be made online at www.trailcenter.org

For more information, contact Larry Stites, Membership Coordinator at membership@trailcenter.org .

Second Portola Redwoods Work Day Produces Big Results

asset.

However, tools and work gloves and post-build snacks need to be purchased and other occasional expenses, such as trailer repair, need to be financed.

The Trail Center relies solely on membership fees and donations to meet these expenses.

If you have been volunteering with us for awhile, please consider taking the next step and becoming a member -- for the modest fee of \$35 per year -- or making a donation of any amount.

[Donate](#)



Quick Links





August 22 had the Trail Center back out at Portola Redwoods State Park for the second of four scheduled trips to this beautiful park. Twenty eager volunteers spent a lovely day in the redwoods doing a multitude of tasks including minor brushing and dead tree and stump removal, but tread improvement was the primary focus. The day was a big success because all the flagged projects along the Slate Creek Trail up to the saddle before the backpacker's camp were able to be repaired. Of course that didn't include work in the several spots that require serious retaining wall structures, but that's what's on tap for the final two work days.

Project leader Dave Croker was very pleased with the quality of work accomplished as were the several groups of hikers and backpackers that passed by during the day. Of particular note were two projects. One was the massive hole that Lewis and others created by removing a large dead log in the trail (think iceberg), and then they had to repair the trail by backfilling. The other was a big snag and narrow spot that Tom worked on by himself for the better part of the afternoon. Both spots are much better and safer thanks to their efforts.

The work day was also a remarkable because four volunteers were recognized for their efforts. Kent, Alison, and Alex for attained their "Green Hats" and Theresa earned her "Green Shirt". To earn a Green Hat, all you have to do is attend four trail build events in at least two different parks. For a Green Shirt, double your participation to 8 events. It's easy, it's fun, and it's rewarding. \

A special note of thanks goes out to our wonderful crew leaders Lisa, Judd (still nursing a broken finger), Hank, and Dave T. Lianna provided a wonderful refreshment hour and Kathy her usual great job organizing the volunteers.

Join us back at the gorgeous Portola Redwoods on September 12 and October 10 when we build retaining walls in addition to trail clean up and improvements.

Email volunteer@trailcenter.org to sign up.

Devil's Canyon Brews Big Donation to Trail Center



The Trail Center is the beneficiary of a generous donation generated by Devil's Canyon Brewery's monthly "Cheers for Charity" fundraiser. Each month when Devil's Canyon opens its doors to the public for "Beer Friday," \$1 from every pint sold is donated to a local charitable group or non-profit and the Trail Center was the designated non-profit in May. The thirsty crowd that attended generated more than \$750 for the Trail Center.

Thank you, Devil's Canyon!!!

Devil's Canyon Brewery is located at 935 Washington St., San Carlos. Their "Beer Friday" event is held on the last Friday of every month. For more information check out their website: devilscanyon.com.

News from Around Parks and Preserves

Park Portraits

The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy staff is looking for "Park Portraits," including artwork, photography, video, poetry, prose, and more that evoke the national parklands in San Mateo County. They hope to display a diverse collection of creative works, each providing a unique perspective on the life of areas like Mori Point, Milagra Ridge, Sweeney Ridge, Phleger Estate, and Rancho Corral de Tierra.

If you'd like to share your "Park Portraits" please submit them by emailing acherbowski@parksconservancy.org.

California Agriculture Art Show

Visit the Coastsde Land Trust's gallery at 788 Main Street, Half Moon Bay to view their California Agriculture Art Show. All art is for sale. The show runs through October 23. Gallery hours are Thursday and Friday, 11am-2pm and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Other Upcoming Projects

- [August 22](#) - Portola Redwoods State Park
- [September 12](#) - Portola Redwoods State Park
- [October 10](#) - Portola Redwoods State Park
- [November 7](#) - Bay Area Ridge Trail - San Mateo County - with REI
- [November 21](#) - Tool Party and Annual Meeting

Consult TrailCenter.org for the most current information.

Email Volunteer@trailcenter.org to sign up for a particular project.